

THE MARKINGS

MISSION: To share the love of Jesus with and through the people of Talbot County and beyond.

ST. MARK'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 100 PEACHBLOSSOM ROAD, EASTON, MD 21601

OCTOBER 2019

Will you share your email address with us? If you have an email address and it is not registered with us or if your email address has changed, would you please share it with us by emailing churchoffice@stmarkseaston.org.

We are sending this and future issues to those of you with email addresses if you have so requested. If you are interested in receiving your issues by email and have not yet requested, please contact the church office.



Dear Members & Friends,

We have been talking about engaging or reengaging our church & faith the last several weeks at St. Marks UMC. As we talk about our faith I am reminded of what Isaiah 48 says, *"The grass withers and the flower fades, but the word of God stands forever."* I think that is good news. Fads, feelings, books, people, cultures, ideas, notions, nations, opinions, money, stuff, markets all come & go. They do not last. They are changing all the time. Building your life on that kind of stuff is like building your house on sand. Only the truths of God are eternal, unchangeable, the same yesterday, today, & forever. Building your life on God's word is like building on a rock, solid, secure, eternal. The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God stands forever. That is good news when things are falling apart around you. I seems this year has not started off well for some in our congregation, lots of illness, personal struggles & hospitalizations. I love stories because they have a powerful way to draw us in, & make a point. That is why Jesus used them to teach. Here is one I came across that has become my "CURRENT" favorite.

There was an elderly man who lived on a farm way back in the mountains of Kentucky with his young grandson. Every morning the grandfather was up early reading from his old worn-out Bible. His grandson wanted to be like his granddad & tried to imitate him every way he could, & one day he said to his grandfather, "I try to read the Bible just like you, but I don't understand it, & what I do understand I seem to forget as soon as I close the book. What good does reading the Bible do?" The grandfather was putting coal in their wood burning stove, & he said, "Take this coal basket down to the river & bring back a basket of water." The boy did as he was told even though all of the water leaked out of the basket before he could get back. The grandfather said, "Well, I guess you are just going to have to run faster next time," & sent him back to the river with the basket to try again. The boy ran faster, but still all the water leaked out before he got back. He was frustrated, but his grandfather told him, "You go try one more time." He did, but the water was gone by the time he got to the house. The boy said, "Granddaddy, this is useless." The grandfather said, "Look at the basket." The boy looked at the basket, & for the first time he realized the basket looked different. Instead of the black on the inside from the dirty coal it was clean & spotless. The water had washed the inside. The grandfather said, "Son, that is what happens when you read the Bible. You might not understand it or remember everything, but when you read it & believe it & stand on it, it will change you from the inside out."

In the times in which we live our culture is trying everything possible to persuade you to doubt God's word. We are in times when Christians are being beheaded because of their belief in God. I encourage you to continue to trust the wisdom of the infinite God over the limitations of human intellect. I believe that everything that we need to know for great living, for handling life's difficulties, for making wise choices, for knowing what is right & what is wrong is found in God's word. You can choose to reject it, ignore it, criticize it, & not read it. You can say it is old fashioned & out of date, but perhaps our daily prayer should be Psalm 119:73, *"You made me, you created me, now give me the good sense to follow your instructions."* Remember, *"The grass withers and the flower fades, but the word of God will stand forever."*

Peace, *Pastor Ed*

Our Vision:

St. Mark's Church will inspire people of all ages through acts of love and service to know Jesus Christ.

GIFTS IN MEMORY OF**Pat Higgins by Wayne & Joyce Bell****Dr. Bill Wharton by Carolyn Lane****EMAIL & SPAM**

It seems a lot of the church emails are going to your SPAM mail box.

One way you can help is to Check your spam mailbox. If you see one of the staff members email in your spam, you can right click on the message & chose NOT SPAM.

Here are instructions for your Outlook

How to whitelist email addresses in Outlook:

RIGHT click on the email address of the sender you want to whitelist

(a menu will open)

Move the mouse curser down to JUNK

(a sub-menu will open)

LEFT click on NEVER BLOCK SENDER

(you will get a confirmation message)

How to whitelist ALL email addresses from a specific domain (such as stmarkseaston.org) in Outlook:

RIGHT click on the email address of the sender you want to whitelist

(a menu will open)

Move the mouse curser down to JUNK

(a sub-menu will open)

LEFT click on NEVER BLOCK SENDER'S DOMAIN

(you will get a confirmation message)

If you have any questions, please contact Karen in the church office.

LET US PRAY FOR

Candlelight Cove - Joy Kyak, Mary Rabenhorst

Londonderry - Liz Lechthaler

Heartfields - Jim & Wanda Denny

Bayleigh Chase - Gardens - Art & Louise Shelby, Ted Lewers, Elva Eareckson

Bayleigh Chase - Jim DeLaney/ Marvel Hall (Dutchman's) Lois Dabbert

Autumn Lake Health - Nettie Robinson, Ruth Pippin, Lee Walker

AT HOME

Betty Fleming Sharon Maisano

Bruce Hotchkiss Ruby Carter

Cathy Tull Phyllis Carroll

Howard Higgins

SERVING IN THE MILITARY

LCPL. Alexander White

GySgt. Harold S. Brice/USMC

CPT. Jacob Shores/ U.S. Army

Sgt. Sarah Golden, USMC

**OUR GLOBAL MISSIONS**

Wings of Caring, Central Congo

Paul Lee Webster, Missionary

Mujila Falls Ag Centre Zambia

Africa University, Zimbabwe

Mulungwishi Seminary scholarship

Lifetime Wells International, Kenny Wood

Six Special U.M. Sundays

African Leadership Resources, Rev.

Labala

Central Congo Partnership



FALL RADA CUTLERY SALE

Sarah Circle's Fall Rada Cutlery Fundraiser for 2019 will be October 1 – October 29. All profits benefit Mid-Shore Council on Family Violence which the circle supports throughout the year. As you know, there are so many victims of domestic violence, & this is our small way of helping with their needs. Since beginning this project in 2005, the circle's contribution to

them has been over \$5,000 which includes an initial donation of \$1,500.00 & sponsoring a family each Christmas. The circle also donates pantry items to them monthly. Because of your help, we are able to continue this worthwhile project.

In addition to the many different cutlery items offered, are cooking utensils, marinades, soup & sauce mixes, cheeseballs, cheesecakes, party dips, seasonings, cookbooks, gift books, & inspirational books. Catalogs, which include ordering instructions, will be available in the Gathering Area October 1. If you have questions, please call Ann Yingling at 410 820 8592, text 410 310 8413, or email ayingling100@gmail.com.



It's time to prepare to fill our holiday baskets for the residents at St. Mark's Village. The brown bags will be placed at two locations in the church. Please take ONE or two and fill them. We prepare 25 baskets for Thanksgiving and 25 for Christmas. They need to be back by Sunday, November 17th. By giving to others we show gratitude to God and showing the love of our Heavenly Father.

Thank you, Lee Royer, Missions



Saturday, October 26th

2pm – 3pm

St. Mark's UMC Parking lot

What is Trunk-or-Treat? It's simple. Decorate your trunks with fun themes and/or cute Halloween decorations. (Check Google, Instagram & Pinterest for ideas. And remember, nothing too scary!) Children in costumes will meander from car to car collecting candy & treats in a safe environment here in the church parking lot. Be sure to bring lots of candy because this event is open to the children of St. Mark's Preschool, Sunday School and their friends! Adults are encouraged to join in on the fun and dress up too! Registration is not required. Please contact the church office or St. Mark's Preschool if you have any questions.

After helping with Trunk-or-Treat, our Youth Group & friends (Grades 6-12) will be jumping on the church bus and heading to Camp Pecometh for the Annual Pen-Del Young People's Ministries Youth Fall Bonfire. This FREE event includes a worship time together, a hayride, and dinner around the campfire with s'mores of course! We will return to the church around 7:30pm. If interested, Youth & Adult Volunteer registrations forms need to be turned in by Wednesday, October 16th. Contact Wendy Avey in the church office for details at christianed@stmarkseaston.org



pen-del.org/youthrally

YOUNG PEOPLE'S MINISTRIES OF THE PENINSULA-DELAWARE CONFERENCE

inseparable

Zealand

KB

Seth Nirva

speaker Melvin Adams

speaker Erin Weidemann

Citizen Way

Phil Joel

Heather Flies

Youth Rally 2020

JANUARY 10-12

OCEAN CITY, MARYLAND

ROUND E. POWELL CONVENTION CENTER

"For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

ROMANS 8:38-39

It's time to sign up for the 2020 Youth Rally in Ocean City!

You won't want to miss out on all the fun and fellowship with thousands of friends.

This year's line-up includes:

Music by: Zealand, KB, Seth & Nirva, and Citizen Way

Speakers: Egypt Speaks, Erin Weidemann, Heather Flies, Melvin Adams, and Phil Joel

This Youth Rally is for Grades 6-12 only. Adult Chaperones (at least 23 years old) are also needed. Regular registration until 10/16/19 for \$95, additional late registration fees through 12/16/19. For information & registration forms, contact: Wendy Avey, Director of Christian Ed.

St. Mark's Youth Group is open to all students in Grades 6 – 12. Gatherings are held every 1st & 3rd Wednesday of each month, 2:30-4:30pm in the Youth Room. Additional events are scheduled throughout the year. We are also looking for a few Adult Leaders to help this year. If you are interested in attending, volunteering or for a complete list of scheduled events through January, please email: christianed@stmarkseaston.org

Update on Matching Gift to reduce the our Debt

As a follow up to the Sunday September 15th announcement & letter sent out on the wonderful challenge gift I am pleased to say we are making progress. We are closer to our \$ 100,000 goal & hope if you haven't made your decision that you do it soon.



The challenge -- a wonderful member of our congregation came forward with a challenge to lower the debt principal faster. This member has offered to match dollar for dollar every new dollar we can raise towards mortgage principal pay down up to \$100,000. Our donor wants the match of new dollars paid by December 30, 2019. If you are able to make a gift, please return a pledge card so we can track how we moving toward reaching our \$100,000 goal. As we work together to eliminate our debt, it puts us in a better position to accomplish and fulfill our mission & vision.

New Member Orientation Classes

Pastor Ed will be holding TWO New Member Orientations in October. The first will on **Monday, October 7, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.** the second will be on **Tuesday, October 8, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.** You just need to attend ONE class. This gives you the opportunity to learn about St. Marks and the expectations of your membership. Current members are invited to attend if they would like a refresher.
See sign up sheet in church foyer!





October Worship Notes

8:15 Traditional in the Chapel
 9:30 Contemporary in the Sanctuary
 11:00 Traditional in the Sanctuary

Come Sing With Us!!

Once again we will present a Christmas Cantata during advent. We invite you to join the Chance Choir in this wonderful advent experience.

Join us on Thursdays, from 8 – 8:30pm, Starting October 3rd, and make some beautiful music!

Advent is such a special time of year, and our holiday music always adds so much to the season. Our cantata this year is “SMALL , Dancing Light”, and will be shared in church on December 8^h at a combined 9:30 all-church worship.

No previous choir experience is necessary to try out this special event, just a servant’s heart, and the desire to make a joyful noise!

Mark your calendars! **October 27, 3:pm**

“*Letzte Abendmusiken*”

A tribute to

Dr. Bill Wharton

Teacher, Colleague, & Friend

Join us for this special concert by friends and colleagues that will honor the life, teachings and inspiration that Dr. Bill shared with us all.

ATTENTION! We have started a St. Mark’s Children’s choir, but it’s not too late to join us! Our new choir is K through 5th grade, and meets each Sunday at 9am (before Sunday School) to practice and then sing in worship about every other month. If you have any questions email or call Mr. Scott at the church.

Communion Servers for September

8:15

Diane Miller
 Judy Coffren

9:30 service

Victoria Laureska
 Alyssa Baker
 Linda Kuhling
 Susan Merriken

11:00

Laura Sydnor
 Carmen Pena
 Frank & Peggy Candore

Scott Clausen, Director of Music and Worship, can be reached at:

Music Office (410) 822-0001, ext. 306

musicdirector@stmarkseaston.org



**Pictured is Pastor June Billman,
St. Mark's Pastor of Visitation.**

June Billman: Pastor of Visitation

By Amelia Blades Steward

St. Mark's is blessed to have a Care Team of people, led by Pastor June Billman, who visit congregation members and their families in their homes, hospitals, nursing homes, and hospice. According to June Billman, Pastor of Visitation at St. Mark's, it takes a village to care for those in need. The team, led by Billman support Pastor Ed Kuhling, who also provides hospital visits and other visits upon request. She comments, "This is a wonderful mission that the church provides and we want everyone to get visited."

In addition to personal visits, the volunteer Care Team, which includes Marilyn Morris, Barbara Freidman, Cindy Brinsfield, Paula Trevor, Selina Moore, and Sharon Maisano, also provides phone calls and cards to those in need. During the past three-month period, the Care Team has provided 145 visits. The team is trained and upholds the confidentiality of all members who are visited. This is the second year that June has been in her position. Pastor Missy Rekitzke asked her to consider the position in 2018. Reverend Gil Anderson, a retired pastor, was the previous Pastor of Visitation. According to June, Reverend Anderson trained her and gave her the springboard to do the job. Pastor Ed Kuhling initiated the Care Team component of the program. The paid position requires 10 hours a week.

She reflects, "It is so rewarding to sit down and talk to people and see them begin to smile again when you visit. Giving them just a portion of my time. It feels good to be there for other people."

June likes to quote Teddy Roosevelt who said, "People don't care how much you know **until** they know how much you care."

In addition to personal visits, June also presides over celebrations of life and funerals upon request and is available for end-of-life visits.

June is currently pastor of Oxford United Methodist Church. Prior to joining the ministry, she had 35 years of experience in customer service at Cadmus Communications/CENVEO, Inc. and at Preston Trucking Co., Inc. She has an Associate Degree in Allied Health from Chesapeake College and is currently pursuing a Course of Study Certificate from Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington DC. Local licensed pastors (who have completed 80 hours of licensing school) are required to complete 20 courses at the seminary.

Anyone interested in a pastoral visit or visit from the Care Team can call the Church Office at 410-822-0001.

SINGLES MINISTRY

St. Mark's Christian Singles Group is forming! Interested? Contact the church office for contact information.



CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE & APOLOGETICS Have you ever wondered just what does the Bible tell us & what do Christians really believe about who, what, & why God (The Father, The Son, & the Holy Spirit) is? This interactive, seminar style course on Christian doctrine provides the answers. With that background we will study how Christians can logically defend the Christian faith (apologetics) against the daily challenges, even attacks posed by other worldwide philosophies. Classes, led by John Taylor, will be each Thursday, in Rm. 155, from 1:00 to 2:30 pm beginning September 26, 2019. **Additional information & the sign-up sheet are in the gathering area.**



UMW October Circle Meetings

Tabitha Circle - Monday, October 7th, 7:00 p.m. Linda Kuhling's home.

Esther Circle - Tuesday, October 1st, 10:00 a.m. at Bayleigh Chase.

Mary Circle - Tuesday, October 1st, 10:00 a.m. Meeting at church in Room 209.

Sarah Circle - Tuesday, October 8th at 7:00 p.m. Meeting at church Room 209.

TRAINING SESSION OFFERED AT AVALON

As part of the on-going mission of the Avalon Foundation Volunteer Committee, we have scheduled Sgt. Eric Kellner of the Easton Police Department to present an Active Shooter Training session to be held at the Avalon on **Wednesday, October 30th at 6:00 PM**. Please mark your calendars now so you will not miss this very important training. Because we believe that this issue is unfortunately very pertinent in today's society, the Avalon Foundation is **opening up this session to the public** as a public service to any interested parties in our community. Please feel free to invite any others who may benefit from this training.

It seems unimaginable that any of us will find ourselves in a situation where we will need this training, but having the exposure to the suggestions that Sgt. Kellner will offer may be just enough to help you make quick decisions which may save your life and the lives of others.

We hope you will be able to attend the training on October 30th at 6:00 PM.

St. Mark's United Methodist Men

The United Methodist Men of St. Mark's United Methodist Church meet every month on the second Tuesday, except July at 6:30 pm at the church. Our agenda consists of a monthly bible study and working on various projects to benefit the Church and its members, our United Methodist District and our local community. All men of the Church are considered members and we encourage all men to join us in fellowship and service to our Lord Jesus Christ. Our next meeting is Tuesday, October 15th at 6:30 pm in room 155 in the church. For this year, we are finishing our study of the Book of Proverbs.

We have committed our group to the 2019 Waterfowl Festival November 8-11 with our famous Rockfish Corn Chowder and Oyster Fritters. Like last year, we are looking for help from the church for kitchen and sales of our product. Circle this date on your calendars as we will need a lot of help cooking, serving and setting up and cleaning up.

Our next Habitat for Humanity work group will meet at the Port Street project on Saturday, November 2nd. This a good time to have fellowship with other men as we complete a worthwhile housing project. Come out and bang some nails with us.

Our next meeting is on Tuesday, October 15th at 6:30 pm in room 155. This is a change as I will be out of town in Williamsburg.

If you would like to receive email notices of our meetings and the projects we are working on, please email Roger Eareckson, President of the UM Men at earecksonr@yahoo.com and I will put you in our email bank so you will know what we are doing and how you can help.

Roger Eareckson, UMM President



October 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Ladies Circle Meetings listed on Page 10		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 NMO – 10 am	8 6:30p UMM NMO – 7 pm	9	10	11	12
13	14	15 9:30a UMW/155	16 1 pm Prayer Shawl	17	18	19
20	21	22 6:30p Trustees	23	24	25	26 Trunk or Treat 2p—3p 4p—7p Camp Pecometh Bon Fire
27 3p Concert	28	29	30	31		

Weekly Schedule

SUNDAY

8:15 am Worship Chapel
9:45 am Worship in Idlewild Park Pavilion
11:00 am Worship Services Sanctuary

WEDNESDAY

10:30 am Prayer Group in Chapel
6:00 pm Bell Choir

THURSDAY

1:00 pm Christian Doctrine Course
7:00 pm Chancel Choir

St. Mark's United Methodist Church
100 Peachblossom Road
Easton, MD 21601

**RETURN SERVICE
 REQUESTED**

NONPROFIT ORG
 US POSTAGE PAID
 EASTON, MD
 PERMIT NO. 239

Staff

Rev. Ed Kuhling, Pastor

June Billman, Pastor of Visitation

Sarah Ewing, Pre-School Director

Wendy Avey, Director of Christian Ed

Scott Clausen, Director of Music & Worship

David Cherry, 9:30 Music Director

Karen Reed, Church Administrator

Erica Kirby, Bookkeeper

Bill Gunther, Building Superintendent

Phone: 410-822-0001

Fax: 410-822-0002

Email: churchoffice@stmarkseaston.org



An important part of packing an Operations Christmas Child shoebox is enclosing a card/letter to the child. It helps make the gift more than just "things" but a reminder that they are cared about by members of our church. Some recipients are in orphanages and may have no one who "belongs" to them. We all want to feel special and that we "belong" to someone. So, this is a great thing to include. **For the month of October, our collection item is extra hand written letters and cards from our congregation at we can place in boxes.**



Here are a few tips:

Print clearly

Keep it short and sweet

Tell the child something about St. Mark's UMC and/or that God loves them

If you have young children, they may want to draw a picture for a child

You may place the card/letter in an envelope, but please do not seal it shut because it will be opened at the inspection center.

Please do not include any of your personal information. We will be placing the church information in each box.

If you have any questions: Please contact Wendy in the church office.